



GRANT RECIPIENT
INDIANA UNIVERSITY
NORTHWEST

YEAR
2004

COUNTY
LAKE

CATEGORY
LOW COST CONSTRUCTION

GRANT AWARD
\$15,131

LOCAL SHARE
\$24,406



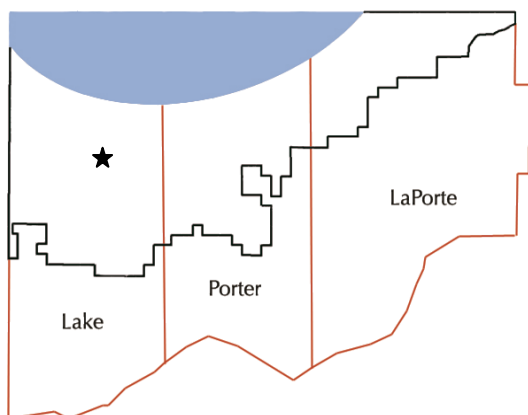
FOR MORE INFORMATION
Lake Michigan Coastal Program
1600 N 25 E
Chesterton, IN 46304
(219) 983-9912
www.in.gov/dnr/lakemich



Little Calumet River Prairie and Wetlands

A previous project restored 89 acres of wetlands in this area of the dike. This project implemented the next phase, creating a high quality prairie and wetland complex by reducing invasive species, planting a 4- acre drainage swale with native plant species, and raking and seeding 6 acres with prairie species. Much of the work was completed with the help of students and volunteers, thus providing valuable experience on restoration efforts. The land is owned by the Gary Parks Department and the Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission holds the lease. Collaboration between these two organizations and Indiana University Northwest made the project possible. The result is a drainage system that is capable of holding and filtering runoff as nature intended.

Once a dominant landscape in Northwest Indiana, many of the coastal region's wetlands have been drained over the years for development and agriculture. Indiana University Northwest seized an opportunity to restore an extensive 10-acre wetland system adjacent to the campus in Gary and along the south dike of the Little Calumet River.



RESULT: Restored ten acres of drainage swale by eliminating invasive species and planting native prairie plants.